

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed September 15, 2009 has been carefully considered. Claims 38-50 are pending. Claims 38 and 44 are amended. Claim 50 is newly added. No new matter has been added.

Examiner Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiners Rustemeyer and Suhol for the telephone interview conducted with the undersigned on January 13, 2010. The amendments made above in claim 38 were discussed in light of Bertram et al. (US Patent No. 6,476,798). Applicants provided an explanation regarding how the added recitations in claim 38 are not disclosed or suggested by Bertram. In general, Applicants explained that Bertram disclosed applying a gain to a sensed signal and the gain is a constant. To the contrary, claim 38, as amended, recites multiplication of a sensed signal with a sinusoid signal, which is not a constant. No agreement was reached because the Examiners indicated that further consideration is needed.

Section 102 Rejection and First Section 103 Rejection

Claims 38, 39, 42, and 45-49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bertram. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that Bertram does not describe or suggest a gaming apparatus as recited in claim 38. Applicants respectfully submit that Bertram does not disclose or suggest a multiplier configured to multiply a sensed signal with a sinusoidal signal as called for by claim 38. Rather, Bertram discloses an operational amplifier that multiplies a sensed signal with a gain, which is a constant and not a sinusoidal signal. An operational amplifier does not multiply a sensed signal with a sinusoidal signal as is recited in claim 38.

For example, Bertram does not disclose or suggest:

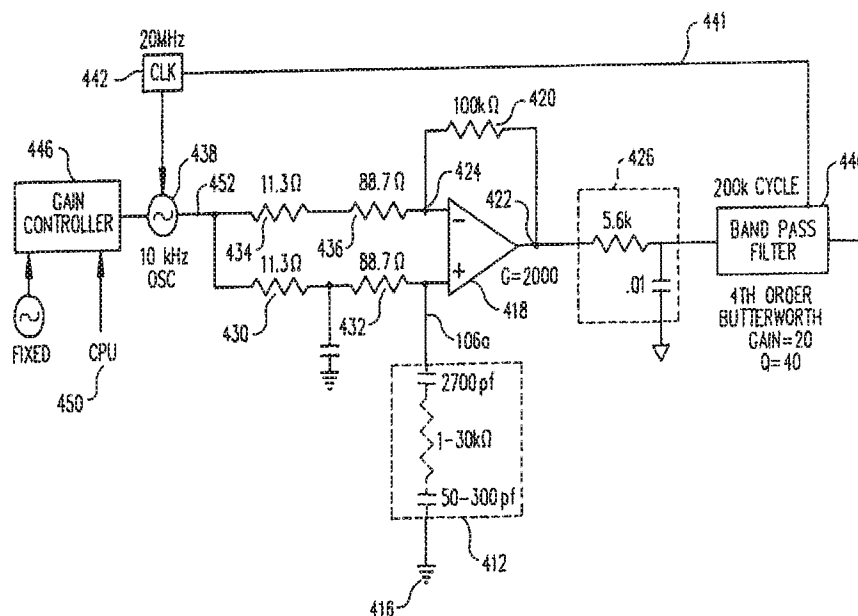
a first multiplier having a first input coupled to the first sensor, a second input coupled to receive a second sinusoidal signal having the frequency and a phase, and an output, wherein the first multiplier is configured to multiply the first sensed signal with the second sinusoidal signal;

a second multiplier having a first input coupled to the first sensor, a second input coupled to receive a third sinusoidal signal having the frequency and a phase 90 degrees out of phase with the phase of the second sinusoidal signal, and an output, wherein both the first multiplier and the second multiplier are configured to receive the first sensed signal, wherein the second multiplier is configured to multiply the first sensed signal with the third sinusoidal signal

as is recited in claim 1.

Bertram describes a touch screen signal processing circuit, which is shown in Figure 4, reproduced below.

Fig. 4



As shown in Figure 4, one of a plurality of lines 106a from an electrode of a touch screen is connected to a positive input of an operational amplifier (OP amp) 418 (col. 4, lines 43-46). The OP amp 418 has a relatively high gain, such as a gain of about 2,000 (col. 4, lines 46-48). A

touch, by a user, at the center of the screen is measured through an 11.3 ohm resistor and the current, converted to voltage, becomes 22.6 volts per volt of drive voltage (col. 6, lines 34-38). The amplifier 418 multiplies the voltage by 2,000 (col. 6, lines 38-40).

Accordingly, as described in Bertram, the amplifier 418 multiplies a voltage by a gain of the amplifier. The gain is not a sinusoidal signal but is rather a constant. There is no multiplication between a sensed signal and a sinusoidal signal. Hence, Bertram does not disclose or suggest the “the first multiplier is configured to multiply the first sensed signal with the second sinusoidal signal” and “the second multiplier is configured to multiply the first sensed signal with the third sinusoidal signal”. Thus, for at least these reasons, claim 38 would not have been anticipated or obvious over Bertram.

Additionally, each of the presently pending dependent claims would not have been anticipated or obvious over Bertram since it depends upon a respective independent claim and also because some of the dependent claims may recite features not disclosed or suggested in Bertram. Hence, for at least these reasons, dependent claims 39, 42, and 45-49 would not have been anticipated by or obvious over Bertram.

Second 103 Rejection

Claims 40, 41, 43, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 40, 41, 43, and 44 depend from independent claim 38, which as described above, would not have been obvious over Bertram. Hence, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 40, 41, 43, and 44 would not have been obvious over Bertram.

New Claim

Claim 50 is newly added and includes the recitations of claim 38, which would not have been anticipated by or obvious over Bertram. Hence, for at least the same reasons set forth above, claim 50 would not have been anticipated or obvious over Bertram.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited and Applicants respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorneys at the number indicated below.

Applicants herewith petition for a one-month extension of time. Applicants hereby petition for any required fee in connection with the filing of this Amendment is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 504480 (Order No. IGT1P210//P000864-001).

Respectfully submitted,

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